

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A client device comprising:
2 an ad-hoc client to manage connection of said client device to an ad-hoc
3 wireless network;
4 a DHCP client to send a DHCP discover message in response to a command
5 from said ad-hoc client; and
6 a tinyDHCP unit to sense said DHCP discover message and allocate an IP
7 address for the client device in response thereto.

- 1 2. The client device of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a packet driver to provide raw access to a wireless network medium for at least
3 the tinyDHCP unit without using sockets functionality.

- 1 3. The client device of claim 2, wherein:
2 said packet driver is a part of a packet capture library.

- 1 4. The client device of claim 1, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit uses dynamic DHCP allocation.

- 1 5. The client device of claim 1, wherein:
2 said DHCP client sends said DHCP discover message to a predetermined port
3 that is monitored by said tinyDHCP unit.

- 1 6. The client device of claim 1, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit tests the availability of said IP address.

- 1 7. The client device of claim 6, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit tests the availability of said IP address by sending an ICMP
3 echo request.

- 1 8. The client device of claim 1, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit sends a DHCP offer that includes the IP address.
- 1 9. The client device of claim 8, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit sends said DHCP offer to a predetermined port that is
3 monitored by said DHCP client.
- 1 10. The client device of claim 8, wherein:
2 said DHCP client senses said DHCP offer and sends a DHCP request based
3 thereon, wherein said DHCP request includes said IP address.
- 1 11. The client device of claim 10, wherein:
2 said DHCP client verifies availability of said IP address before sending said
3 DHCP request.
- 1 12. The client device of claim 10, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit senses said DHCP request and sends a DHCP acknowledge
3 (ACK) message in response thereto.
- 1 13. The client device of claim 1, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit is associated with a user interface to allow a user to specify
3 DHCP parameters.
- 1 14. A method for use in connecting a client device to an ad-hoc network,
2 comprising:
3 sending a DHCP discover message from within the client device;
4 receiving said DHCP discover message within the client device; and
5 allocating an IP address to the client device in response to receiving said DHCP
6 discover message, within the client device.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein:
2 sending includes sending said DHCP discover message to a predetermined port.

1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein:
2 receiving includes monitoring said predetermined port and sensing said DHCP
3 discover message on said predetermined port.

1 17. The method of claim 14, further comprising:
2 sending a DHCP offer that includes said IP address, after allocating said IP
3 address, from within the client device.

1 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
2 testing the availability of said IP address before sending said DHCP offer.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein:
2 sending a DHCP offer includes causing a packet driver to send said DHCP offer
3 on a wireless network medium.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein:
2 said packet driver sends said DHCP offer on said wireless network medium
3 without the use of sockets functionality.

1 21. The method of claim 17, further comprising:
2 receiving said DHCP offer within the client device; and
3 sending, after receiving said DHCP offer, a DHCP request that includes said IP
4 address from within the client device.

1 22. The method of claim 21, further comprising:
2 verifying that the IP address within the DHCP offer is available before sending
3 said DHCP request.

1 23. The method of claim 21, further comprising:
2 receiving said DHCP request within the client device; and
3 sending, after receiving said DHCP request, a DHCP acknowledge (ACK)
4 message from within the client device.

1 24. The method of claim 23, further comprising:
2 receiving said DHCP ACK message within the client device.

1 25. The method of claim 14, wherein:
2 allocating includes using dynamic DHCP allocation.

1 26. An article comprising storage media having instructions stored thereon that,
2 when executed by a computing platform, result in:
3 sending a DHCP discover message from within a client device;
4 receiving said DHCP discover message within the client device; and
5 allocating an IP address to the client device in response to receiving said DHCP
6 discover message, from within the client device.

1 27. The article of claim 26, wherein:
2 sending includes sending said DHCP discover message to a predetermined port.

1 28. The article of claim 27, wherein:
2 receiving includes monitoring said predetermined port and sensing said DHCP
3 discover message on said predetermined port.

1 29. The article of claim 26, further comprising:
2 sending a DHCP offer that includes said IP address, after allocating said IP
3 address, from within the client device.

1 30. A client device comprising:
2 a wireless network interface card (NIC) to provide an interface to a wireless
3 network medium;
4 an ad-hoc client to manage connection of said client device to an ad-hoc
5 wireless network;
6 a DHCP client to send a DHCP discover message in response to a command
7 from said ad-hoc client; and
8 a tinyDHCP unit to sense said DHCP discover message and allocate an IP
9 address for the client device in response thereto.

1 31. The client device of claim 30, wherein:
2 said wireless NIC is configured in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 wireless
3 networking standard.

1 32. The client device of claim 30, further comprising:
2 a packet driver to provide raw access to said wireless network medium for the
3 tinyDHCP unit without using sockets functionality.

1 33. The client device of claim 32, wherein:
2 said packet driver is part of a packet capture library.

1 34. The client device of claim 30, wherein:
2 said tinyDHCP unit uses dynamic DHCP allocation.